NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Carol A. Murray, Commissioner

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PUBLIC HEARINGS SET ON TRANSPORTATION PROJECT APPLICATIONS PROPOSED LOCAL PROJECTS WILL BE REVIEWED FOR POSSIBLE FUNDING

A wide range of potential transportation-related projects will be considered for funding at two March public hearings at the New Hampshire Department of Transportation headquarters in Concord.

Interested citizens, groups, municipalities and state agencies have submitted applications for the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Transportation Enhancement (TE) programs' funds.

CMAQ projects can include: improving transit services, vanpool and carpool programs, traffic management and intersections improvement projects, employer trip reduction or flexible work schedule programs, pedestrian and bicycle trails and promotional activities, and education outreach programs aimed at reducing transportation-related emissions.

Transportation Enhancement projects may include: facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians, the acquisition of scenic or historic sites, welcome centers, landscaping, preserving abandoned railroad corridors, the rehabilitation of historic transportation buildings, the control and removal of outdoor advertising, archaeological research, environmental protection related to highway run-off, and the establishment of transportation museums.

The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) public hearing will be held Monday, March 18, 2002 at the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, John O. Morton Building, Rooms 112/113, One Hazen Drive in Concord from 2:00 to 5:30 PM. The CMAQ Advisory Committee will make final project selections on April 3 at 2:00 PM at the same location.

The Transportation Enhancement public hearing will be held Monday, March 25, 2002 at the NHDOT's Morton Building from 2:00 to 5:00 PM and 6:00 to 8:00 PM. The TE Advisory Committee will meet on April 15 at 3:00 PM at the same location to make its final project selections.

All applicants for both the CMAQ and TE funds will be notified about the scheduled hearings. The public is also welcome to attend and comment.